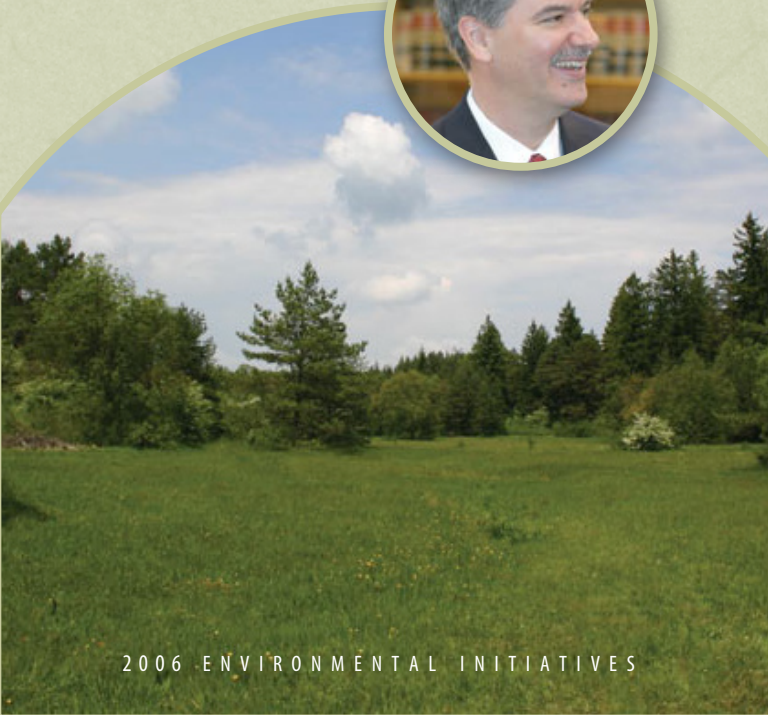


STATE SENATOR DONALD E. WILLIAMS, JR.

KEEPING CONNECTICUT GREEN



2006 ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

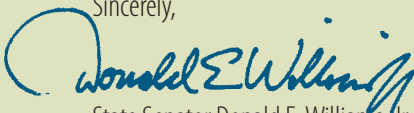
Dear Friend,

The General Assembly is in the middle of the 2006 legislative session, and I would like to update you on environmental issues we will address this session. As President Pro Tempore of the state Senate, I will be working closely with my caucus, the chairpersons of the Environment Committee and all its members to promote effective environmental legislation.

Sound environmental legislation and business need not conflict; in fact, a symbiotic relationship of the two can be a hallmark of successful environmental legislation. Toward that goal, I will work on a number of initiatives including but not limited to: tax breaks for fuel-efficient vehicles, a business tax credit for the construction of green buildings, a pilot program for fuel cell buses, farmland preservation and marketing Connecticut-grown products. More detailed descriptions of these and other initiatives can be found inside this document.

As always, I appreciate your feedback. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact my office directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Donald E. Williams, Jr.", with a large, stylized initial "D" on the left.

State Senator Donald E. Williams, Jr.
President Pro Tempore

FARMERS' MARKETS

Promote the growth and development of these markets by clearly defining in law what a farmers' market is and specify that farmers there may sell all products they're allowed to sell at their own farms. This will give local officials the guidance they need to help facilitate these burgeoning markets. Farmers' markets are a great way to grow our local economy and provide farm-fresh products for the consumer.



TAX BREAKS FOR FUEL- EFFICIENT VEHICLES

Reward environmentally proactive citizens by offering a permanent sales tax exemption for people purchasing alternative fuel vehicles. Currently, without action, the sales tax exemption will end October 1, 2008. As a state, we should do all we can to encourage those conscientious individuals who choose to do their part to reduce emissions and our country's dependence on nonrenewable foreign energy sources.



SENATOR WILLIAMS INSPECTING A HYBRID VEHICLE
ON CLEAN ENERGY DAY AT THE CAPITOL.

FUEL CELL BUSES

Embrace Connecticut's burgeoning fuel cell industry through a pioneering pilot program to fund the equipment of a number of our city buses with fuel cell technology. Fuel cells offer an exciting future for our state and this investment will demonstrate Connecticut's commitment to developing renewable energy and reducing emissions.

SENATOR GARY LEBEAU (D-EAST HARTFORD) STANDS IN FRONT OF A ZERO-EMISSIONS BUS EQUIPPED WITH FUEL CELLS MANUFACTURED IN CONNECTICUT.



PROVIDE A *GREEN BUILDING*
BUSINESS TAX CREDIT

Provide a tax credit for all new construction or rehabilitation for Connecticut businesses that use a “green building” model. These buildings are not only environmentally sound and healthy places to work, but are also more energy-efficient and profitable.

GREEN CONSTRUCTION ZONE

GREEN CONSTRUCTION ZONE



FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Expand upon last session's landmark Farmland Preservation legislation to allocate \$30 million more from the fiscal year 2006 budget surplus to the Department of Agriculture for additional funding of farmland preservation. This action will expand our efforts to help Connecticut maintain a vigorous farming community while preserving our agricultural heritage, rolling vistas and open space for generations to come.



MARKETING CONNECTICUT- GROWN FARM PRODUCTS

Encourage development of Connecticut agriculture through a statewide Connecticut-grown advertising campaign, promotion of agri-tourism and fostering of relationships between the business and farming communities. Connecticut's agricultural community currently contributes \$2.2 billion annually to our state's economy. Efforts like these will help stimulate and grow our agrarian communities to the benefit of all Connecticut citizens.



REDUCING DIESEL EMISSIONS INSIDE SCHOOL BUSES

Require by the beginning of the 2008 school year that all Type 1 diesel-powered school buses operating in Connecticut be equipped with a closed crankcase ventilation system. This is designed to substantially reduce or eliminate diesel fine particulate matter emissions from entering the school bus cabin from the engine. This will also allow our children, especially those with respiratory ailments such as asthma, to ride to and from school free of agitating diesel emissions.





STATE SENATOR

Don Williams

SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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REPRESENTING THE 29TH DISTRICT:

Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Mansfield,
Putnam, Scotland, Thompson & Windham